

Mrs
E. 60/11/3

xy



ON
IMMIGRATION

Issued by
PUBLICITY AND RESEARCH DEPT.
UNITED FARMERS OF CANADA SASK. SECTION LTD.
Saskatoon

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Why U.F.C. Is Opposed to Present Immigration Policy	3
U.F.C. Resolution on Immigration, Moose Jaw, 1927	4
Joint Conference on Immigration, August 14, 1928	4
Seductive Advertising	5
Canadian League on Immigration	7
Opinions of Members of Parliament	8
Alberta Municipalities Protest	9
Press Notice—Dissatisfied Immigrants	10

Why U.F.C. is Opposed to Present Immigration Policy

1. We are opposed to stimulated immigration because it is based on the false idea that large population means great prosperity. This is proved to be false from the fact that our immigrants all come from countries with large populations.

The prosperity of the people does not rest on the population, or the amount of production, but on the share which the people get of the goods they produce. In other words their purchasing power. If we make conditions right for the people who are here we can dispense with all immigration activities because the people will come of their own accord.

* * *

2. We are opposed to the present immigration activities because they are all based on selfish interest.

The Government wants population in order to help pay the War Debt.

The Railways want population to raise freight and pay dividends.

The Colonization Companies want population in order to sell land.

Church organizations want immigrants in order to fill their churches.

Immigration Agents want them in order to draw their commissions on the bookings.

Everybody wants to make something out of the immigrant. And apparently no one thinks of the welfare of the immigrant and his family.

In winter notices are posted in the Post Offices telling the unemployed to keep away. Nobody wants them.

* * *

3. We are opposed to the present immigration activities because they are carried on without exact knowledge as to the rate at which the West can absorb the newcomers. We have frequently demanded that an economic survey be made to furnish definite data along these lines.

* * *

4. We are opposed to stimulated immigration because it means more unemployment and lower wages for the industrial workers. This means lower prices for farm produce and less demand, and general adversity all round.

* * *

5. We are opposed to the Government Immigration Policy because



intending settlers are not properly informed as to real conditions in the West. The trickery of seductive advertising is used to decoy people to the West without giving them a true picture of the condition of the people who are already here. No mention is ever made in government publications of farmers being dried out or blown out or frozen out or hailed out, or the fact that they can only rely upon an average of one crop out of three years.

- * * *
6. We are opposed to the immigration policy because the economic troubles of the world are due to the capitalist system of production for profit, and it is no solution of the problem to move masses of the people from one capitalist country to another.

United Farmers of Canada Resolution Passed at Moose Jaw Convention, 1927

"Resolved that the United Farmers of Canada in Convention assembled do not approve of a vigorous immigration policy on the part of the Government until our own unemployed are cared for and those brought out in former years are assimilated and stabilized.

"And that we go on record as being opposed to the granting of any special privileges to those coming into this country which are not granted to our own citizens."

* * *

The above was wired to the secretary of the Committee on Colonization and Immigration, stating further:

"This indicates clearly that we believe the immigration problem to be neither a religious question nor a question for corporations nor a question for any individual political party. It is entirely an economic question and we believe that the policy should be worked out jointly by the provincial governments and the dominion government, and the responsibility for carrying out that policy definitely placed on the department of immigration. And further that no one political party nor religious body nor corporation should be allowed to solicit or dump immigrants indiscriminately within the Dominion of Canada, but that all immigration activities should cease until the whole question has been thoroughly examined on a scientific and economic basis."

Conference of Immigration Held in the Y.M.C.A., Saskatoon, Tuesday, August 14, 1928

Representing United Farmers of Canada, Sask. Section, Ltd.: Mr. Stoneman, Mrs. Hollis, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Robson, Mr. Bickerton, Mr. Stephen, Mr. Glassford, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Thrasher.

Representing Sask. Association Rural Municipalities: J. J. McGurran.
Representing Canadian Legion: Messrs. D. H. Shelton, A. E. Potts.
Representing Trades and Labor Council, Saskatoon: G. F. Dealtry.

A general invitation to those interested was extended through the Press and the following were also present as visitors, not delegates: Mrs. Seymour Hadwen and Mrs. W. B. Hartie of the Women's British Immigration League.

Mr. Chris. Smith of the Netherlands Colonization Bureau.

Rev. J. A. Donnell of the Ministerial Association.

Dr. A. MacG. Young, M.P.

Rt. Rev. G. Exton Lloyd, Bishop of Saskatchewan.

Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, M.L.A.

Mr. Buckle, M.L.A.

The following resolution was passed: ROBSON-DEALTRY:—

WHEREAS this Conference of delegates from the U.F.C., the Women's Section of the U.F.C., the Canadian Legion, Saskatoon Trades and Labor Council, and the Rural Municipalities, is of the opinion that the present policy of bringing in excessive numbers of immigrants is not to the benefit of the Dominion as a whole, inasmuch as large numbers of recent arrivals are not being assimilated, except at the expense of those who have been resident in Canada for a number of years, accentuating the economic problem and its effect upon the standard of living, and

WHEREAS this Conference is of the opinion that there is a lack of definite information as to the needs of the various provinces, their ability to assimilate immigrants, and as to the ultimate destination of such immigrants,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the Federal Government to appoint a National Commission of Inquiry that shall study the problem of immigration and assimilation from every possible angle, such a Commission to conduct public hearings, making provision for the attendance of representative witnesses whose testimony shall be taken under oath and to report to Parliament the conclusion reached by it and make such recommendations as in its judgment it may deem proper, and that pending the findings of such a Commission no further agreement shall be entered into by the Federal Government with the railroads after the present agreement has expired. CARRIED.

Seductive Advertising

The following is a copy of an advertisement about Canada which has been sent to us from Ireland. It appeared in the "Irish Independent" in the issue of Friday, February 8th, 1929:

Canada offers a warm welcome, good wages

and the prospect of early independence to the willing worker.

* * *

There is no unemployment on the great farm lands of Western Canada.

* * *

A few years of industry enables the intelligent worker to become his own master and secure a home and improved prospects for his family.

* * *

Many of the most successful farmers in Canada today arrived there with no capital except good health and a determination to succeed.

* * *

There is no finer country for the boys and girls to start life in.

* * *

Young women are in constant demand all over Canada as household helps in good homes and at good wages.

* * *

Write to Dept. 56, Canadian Government Information Bureau, 44 Dawson Street, Dublin, C2.

* * *

And the worst of it is every word of that mischievous advertisement is true. Canada does offer a warm welcome and good wages (when she needs help). And the Prospect—Oh! that Prospect, that continually retreating Prospect of Early Independence. We all know of it by hearsay. It is quite true also that there is no unemployment on the great farm lands of Canada. Far from it. We have never yet known a farm where the owner or his family ever suffered from lack of work. Six days thou shalt labour and the seventh thou shalt do a great deal more.

Nevertheless the advertisement is greatly misleading. It would be just as true (and just as misleading) if it read:

Canada offers a cold welcome (40 below zero and six months winter), hail storms in summer, blizzards, frozen crops, rust, mortgages, financial anxiety, etc.

There is plenty of unemployment in Canada. In winter notices are posted up in every large town in the West advising workers to keep away—no work—no assistance.

* * *

During the last six or seven years over one million immigrants have left the country largely on account of the difficulties of agriculture.

* * *

Out of 6,000 miners who were financed to come to this Land of Paradise in 1928 only 1,200 remained, the others could find no work and went back to England.

* * *

One crop in three years is the average expectation.

* * *

Both of these statements of the case are correct, but they are both misleading. We do not accuse immigration authorities of publishing lies, but we do accuse them of using all the trickery of seductive advertising to persuade people to come to this country, and the United Farmers of Canada are opposed to that method of doing business.

Summary of Findings of Canadian League^(Saskatoon Group) on Immigration

(MARCH 14, 1929)

(NOTE): The Canadian League is a Club with branches in all large centres in Canada. It is composed of men chosen on account of their different social positions in order to get different views on social questions. The Club studies public questions and reports findings to headquarters at Ottawa. Reports are published. The following is a summary of discussions after hearing paper by Mr. McGeachy, editor of Star-Phoenix on Immigration.

* * *

1. We doubt the desirability as public policy of stimulation of immigration by bonusing or assisting passengers by Canada, or of movements of large bodies of immigrants en masse.
2. We recommend no restriction as to nationality of families

immigrating into Canada, of their own initiative or with their own resources. We believe the experience of Western Canada has been that unrestricted immigration of single men does not result in the immigrants remaining in Western Canada to develop the country.

3. We do not believe that agricultural experience should be made a requirement of prospective immigrants, nor should immigration be confined to those who express a desire or will undertake to go on the land.

4. We do not think that the national characteristics of the West have been endangered by lack of British Immigration, nor is it likely to become so, though British immigration is desirable.

5. The facts that have come to our notice would suggest that under existing conditions, the power of the West to absorb large numbers of immigrants is far more limited than is popularly believed, and scarcely exceeds the present rate of immigration.

These opinions are based on our conception of economic conditions as they exist at the present moment and might be changed or modified by changing conditions.

* * *

(The above opinions which are the opinions of a truly representative body composed of University professors, lawyers, business men, editors, government officials, and representative of the viewpoint of Labour and organised Farmers, are very much in line with the views of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section.)

Opinions of Members of Parliament

(From Hansard)

MR. SPEAKMAN (U.F.A. Group): "The Government should cease all efforts to induce or assist people to come to Canada."

* * *

MR. GARDINER asked the Government "to make no further commitments in regard to assisted settlement without first consulting Parliament."

* * *

MR. KELLNER declared "that General McRae's scheme was absurd and he favored rather a reduction of the vote for the Immigration Dept."

* * *

MR. NEILL: "I came out in the steerage myself unassisted and

nobody hand-fed or pap-fed me when I got here, and I am quite willing that other people should have similar opportunities."

* * *

FRANK CAHILL said the policy of the Government should be "to allow healthy energetic and enterprising people to come here of their own accord instead of taxing the people of this country in order to assist what may be a more or less undesirable class of people to come to Canada."

* * *

MR. BOULANGER declared that "the present immigration policy was a misuse of taxpayers' money."

* * *

W. K. BALDWIN: "Assisted immigration brings to this country pussy-footed, spineless people who are not worthwhile."

—

Alberta Union of Municipalities Protest

At their meeting in July, 1929, at Calgary, the following resolution was passed:

"WHEREAS the question of poor relief is becoming a very serious one and the amount required for this purpose taking far too large a proportion of the annual tax levy.

"AND WHEREAS the governments and transportation companies are bringing in immigrants in very much greater numbers than can be absorbed by agriculture, and the surplus is displacing other residents in both regular and casual employment;

"AND WHEREAS there has lately been a greater demand for relief than at any time during the past 10 years;

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal and Provincial Governments be asked to seriously consider the advisability of restricting immigration to those who will permanently engage in agriculture and those who have capital with which to engage in some productive enterprise."

Training in Agriculture Without Cows and Without Plows

A recent press despatch dated Winnipeg, Aug. 20, 1929, in the Manitoba Free Press states:

"Between 200 and 300 men, all British immigrants, are being fed at the expense of the Government at the Dominion Immigration Hall here. The men refuse further work of any kind, and in the majority of cases ask to be sent back across the water. 20 of the men were sent back last Friday, and 40 more are ready to be sent to the Atlantic seaboard.

"Among the reasons put forth by the men for their absolute refusal to consider further work are:

"That they never intended to do farm work even if they accepted the British training for it and free board and free transportation to destinations in Canada;

"That they had never seen a cow or a plow in the course of that training and therefore could not do what was expected of them here;

"That they had been guaranteed work for twelve months period at \$50 a month;

"That they had been afraid to stay at other than farm jobs because they were told immigration officials would jail them if they did;

"That farmers paid much less than the promised wages, and finally that they could not collect from the farmers what was coming to them.

"Signed statements to this effect were put on record by the majority of the men at the immigration offices."

Free Literature

GENERAL

100 Percent. Control.
What is the U.F.C. Doing? (Fr., Ger., Ukrainian)
How to Conduct a Public Meeting.
Committees and Their Work.
Suggestions for Special Program.
What Has Organization Done?
Mind Your Own Business.
Hail Insurance.
Life Insurance.
Starting a Co-operative Store.
U.F.C. Application to the Tariff Commission.
Three Hundred Percent.
Report on Milling.
Facts About the Tariff.
Do You Know This?

MAINLY FOR WOMEN

Mothers' Allowances.
Marriage of Minors.
Nationality and Naturalization of Women.
Mainly for Women.
Law of Divorce.
A New International Order (Marguerite Dumont).
Some Phases of Education (Dr. Quance).
Home Engineering (Prof. Hardy).
The Poultry Pool (Mrs. Holmes).
Education of the Deaf (Mr. Williams).
Recent Provincial Health Education (Dr. Seymour).

HEALTH AND FOOD

Constipation.
The Fly Menace.
Advice to Expectant Mothers.
The Rheumatic Affections.
Facts About Fruit.
Facts About Feed.
The Far Too Common Cold.
Cleanliness and Preservation of Food.

(Issued by Central Office, U.F.C., Saskatoon)